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Governor

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State Health Commissioner

Indiana State Department of Health
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Vaccine E-Letter # 257
10/26/2007

www.statehealth.in.gov/programs/immunization.htm

FDA Expands Age Range for Menactra

On October 18, 2007, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration expanded the approved age range for Menactra, a bacterial meningitis vaccine, to include children ages 2 to 10 years.

Previously, Menomune was the only meningococcal vaccine available in the United States for use in children ages 2 years and older. Since June of 2007, ACIP revised it's recommendation to include routine vaccination of all persons aged 11-18 years with 1 dose of MCV4 at the earliest opportunity. Both products are manufactured by sanofi pasteur Inc. of Swiftwater, PA. Both vaccines offer protection against four groups of Neisseria meningitidis, the bacterium that can cause meningitis.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) currently recommends meningococcal vaccination for children ages 2 to 10 years who are at increased risk of developing meningococcal disease, such as those who have had their spleen removed or whose spleen is not functioning; those with a medical condition called terminal complement component deficiency, and those who expect to travel to areas outside of the United States where the disease is common.

While not observed in these clinical trials, Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS), a neurological disorder that causes muscle weakness, was noted as a possible but unproven risk in some adolescents following immunization with Menactra, occurring in an estimated 1 in 1 million vaccine recipients. As a precaution, people who have previously been diagnosed with GBS should not receive Menactra.

To access the press release, go to:
http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01729.html

To access the package insert, go to:
http://www.fda.gov/cber/label/menactraLB.pdf

To access the approval letter, go to:
http://www.fda.gov/cber/approvltr/menactra101807L.htm

Influenza Vaccine Ordering Update

CDC has advised the Indiana Immunization Program that the following formulations of influenza vaccine are now available for distribution to Indiana's VFC providers:

1,740 doses of sanofi pasteur's Fluzone vaccine in the 10 dose vial, 0.25 ml are now available from the McKesson vaccine distributor. Providers who have placed orders for this vaccine should begin receiving *some or all of their requested vaccine order within two weeks.

23,250 doses of sanofi pasteur's Fluzone vaccine in the 10 pack, 1 dose syringe, 0.25 ml, preservative free are now available from the McKesson vaccine distributor. Providers who have placed orders for this vaccine should begin receiving *some or all of their requested vaccine order within two weeks.

660 doses of sanofi pasteur's Fluzone vaccine in the 10 pack, 1 dose syringe, 0.5 ml, preservative free are now available from the McKesson vaccine distributor. Providers who have placed orders for this vaccine should begin receiving *some or all of their requested vaccine order within two weeks.

5,530 doses of sanofi pasteur's Fluzone vaccine in the 10 pack, 1 dose vial, 0.5 ml, preservative free are now available from the McKesson vaccine distributor. Providers who have placed orders for this vaccine should begin receiving *some or all of their requested vaccine order within two weeks.

Important Shipping Information

*Each provider will receive their requested order of influenza vaccine in full, if available supplies allow, or as an equitable percentage of their requested order should orders for specific formulations exceed the total allocated supply.

ACIP Recommendations – Subcutaneous and Intramuscular vaccines

In the General Recommendations it states that if you give a subcutaneous (SQ) vaccine by the intramuscular (IM) route, you do not have to repeat the dose.

"What if you give an IM vaccine by the subcutaneous route?"

This recommendation was revised in the 2002 General Recommendations. Hepatitis B and rabies vaccines that were not given by the IM route should be repeated. CDC's Division of Viral Hepatitis also recommends that Hepatitis A vaccine should be repeated if it is not given by the IM route. Otherwise, IM vaccines needn't be repeated if inadvertently given SQ. However, remember for

optimal immune response, the vaccine should be administered by the recommended route. If someone is routinely administering a vaccine(s) by a route that is not recommended, then some education is needed. ACIP General Recommendations (see pages 18-19). (2/13/03)

Source: http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/faqs-nipinfo-general.htm

Contact Us

For questions and comments, please contact the ISDH Immunization Program at: Immunize@ISDH.IN.gov or 800-701-0704.

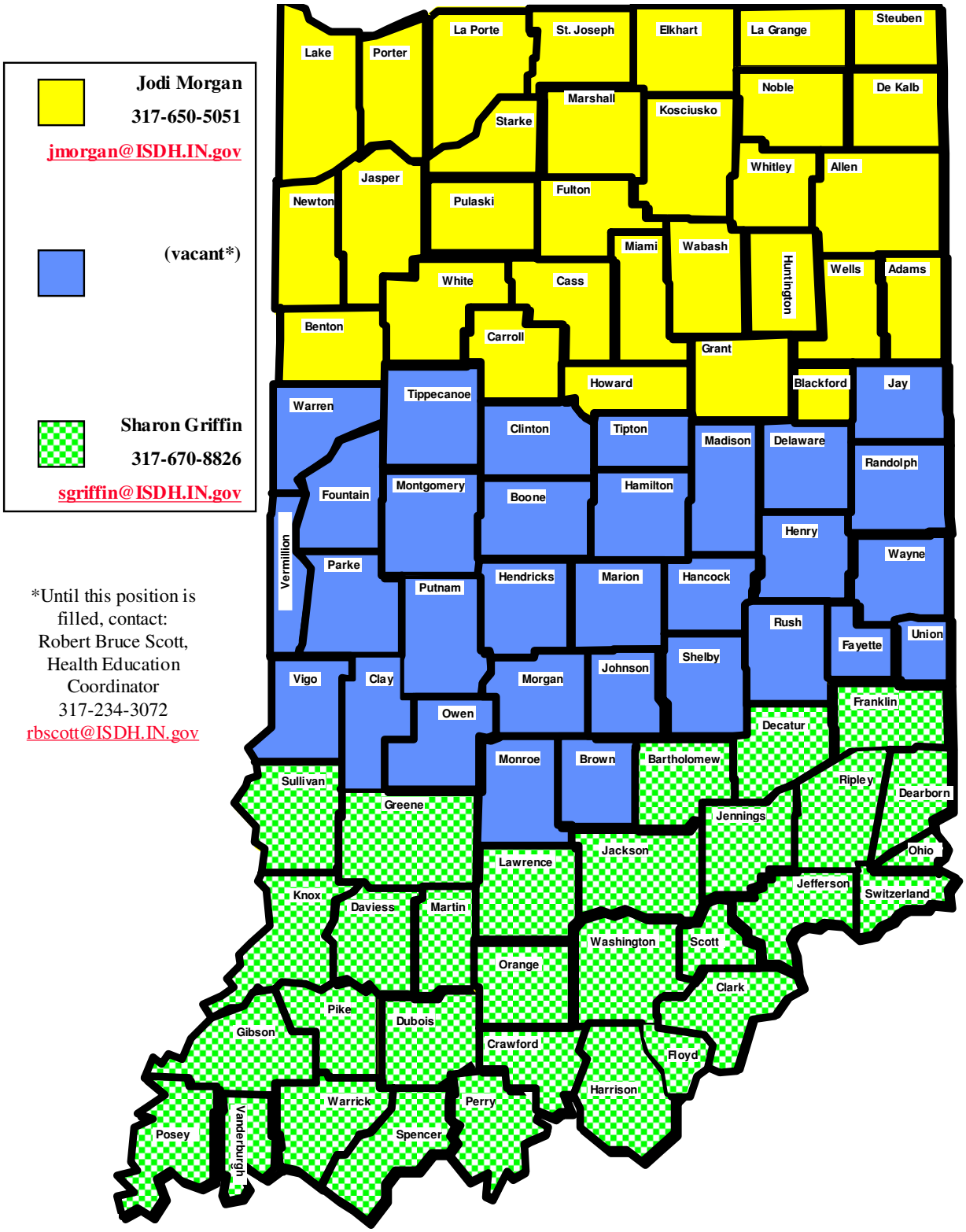
ISDH Immunization Field Staff – Health Education

Public Health Educators provide education on immunization administration, vaccine preventable diseases, reporting requirements, and immunization programs across the state. They also enroll vaccine providers in the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program.

The educators offer specialized trainings for school nurses, health care personnel, WIC and Head Start staff, and for Medical Assistant programs. The A to Z training includes sections on: CHIRP, basics of immunity and vaccination, vaccine preventable disease (VPD) and vaccines (children and adults), vaccine storage and handling, precautions and contraindications, vaccine administration, general recommendations as well as school requirements, myths and misconceptions, reading records, and where access reliable information.

Refer to the Health Educator Regions map that follows for contact information.

Indiana State Department of Health
Immunization Program
Health Educator Regions



*Until this position is filled, contact:
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